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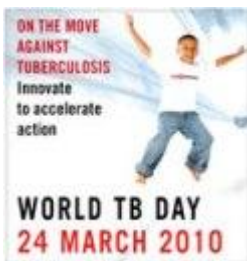
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WORLD TB DAY

MARCH 24, 2010

"The U.S. is a leader in the global effort to battle TB. We support the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB, and Malaria. And across the federal government – from PEPFAR, the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to the U.S. Agency for International Development, which assists TB programs in 40 countries – we have made this fight a priority."

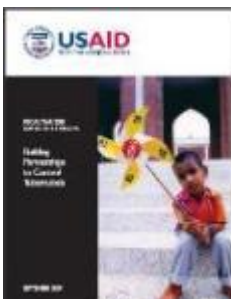
-- [U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's Remarks on World TB Day, March 24, 2010](#)



Observed every year on March 24th, **World TB Day** is designed to build public awareness that tuberculosis (TB) remains an epidemic in much of the world, causing the deaths of several million people each year. This special day marks the day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch astounded the scientific community by announcing that he had discovered *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacteria that cause TB. At the time of Koch's announcement in Berlin, TB was raging through Europe and the Americas, causing the death of one out of every seven people.

The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#), the United States, and countries around the world commemorate **World TB Day** by recognizing the lives and stories of people affected by TB: women, men, and children who have received treatment, medical and public health professionals, researchers, and community health and outreach workers -- all essential team members in the global fight against TB.

THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS



[Expanded Response to Tuberculosis](#) - The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) strives to support the implementation of the WHO's "STOP TB Strategy" and contribute significantly to the global reduction of morbidity and mortality associated with tuberculosis.

[Building Partnerships to Control Tuberculosis](#) - USAID, in close collaboration with global, regional, and developing country partners, is committed to addressing the global burden of TB, which kills about 1.7 million people annually.

[Spotlight on South East Asia: CDC's Regional TB Program](#) - The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) TB program has worked with the Thai Ministry of Public Health since 2003 to develop initiatives and research that lead to effective TB control policies. Program staff also provide technical assistance to other countries in the region, including Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, and to WHO regional offices in New Delhi and Manila. Among the strategies used to reduce the burden of TB in Thailand and Southeast Asia are developing models, measuring incidence and mortality, and promoting best practices.

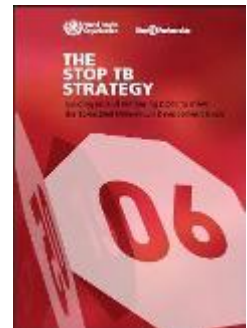
A WORLD FREE OF TUBERCULOSIS



[Multidrug and Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis: 2010 Global Report on Surveillance and Response](#) - This new global WHO report on multidrug and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis examines the trends, progress, and challenges in treating these forms of TB. It summarizes the latest data and provides latest estimates of the global epidemic of multidrug and extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (M/XDR-TB).

[Innovation Critical in Battle Against Ancient Tuberculosis](#) - TB is a 500,000-year-old contagious lung disease that kills someone around the world every 20 seconds. A diagnostic test was developed 125 years ago, its vaccine 80 years ago and drug treatments 40 years ago.

[The Stop TB Strategy](#) - WHO has developed a new six point plan, "The Stop TB Strategy," which builds on the successes of Directly Observed Treatment Short course (DOTS) approach, while also explicitly addressing the key challenges facing TB. Its goal is to dramatically reduce the global burden of tuberculosis by 2015 by ensuring all TB patients, including those co-infected with HIV and those with drug-resistant TB, benefit from universal access to high-quality diagnosis and patient-centered treatment. The strategy also supports the development of new and effective tools to prevent, detect and treat TB. The Stop TB Strategy underpins the Stop TB Partnership's Global Plan to Stop TB 2006-2015.



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